QUICK CLICK ICONS FOR WORKSPACE FLOW BETWEEN VIEWS FOR MAJOR SUBSYSTEMS AND VIEWS WITHIN A DESIGN TOOL

5   ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method and system for helping a user perform tasks in software. Graphic elements (e.g., icons) are rendered and displayed regardless of which task is being performed. An element can be either active or inactive; user selection of an element with the element active initiates an action in response to

10   the selection while user selection of the element with the element inactive will not initiate the action. Some elements are activated and other elements are deactivated according to which task is to be performed. The elements are selectively activated and deactivated to guide the user through the tasks according to the order in which the tasks are logically performed. The elements

15   thus suggest an order for performing the tasks, guiding the user through the tasks without the need for a help utility such as a wizard.